



Bachelors enjoying 'First Pub.' These guys will probably blame the several beers for their pose and their friend's missing shirt. Maybe they're celebrating not being stuck in the line-up. photo/Melissa Donnelly

Capacity crowd fills first pub

Rammed first pub brings line-ups, frustration and fun

BY ADRIAN PALINIC AND ERICA PINTO

Music blared, heads bobbed, beer bottles clanked, and hands waved in the air. Lights reflected off the disco

ball, shimmered over the crowd, and confetti floated down from the DJ booth. Smiles, laughter, and cheers echoed throughout the Blind Duck Pub annual 'First Pub,' hosted last Thursday. Students crowded the bar, boogied on the dance floor, lounged by the pool tables, and mingled on the patio.

"First pub is bangin'! It's a chance to catch up with old friends, and party with new ones," said second-year student Barrie Fulton.

Abhay, a fourth-year computer science student said, "The pub was amazing. Although there was a line, it wasn't so bad. The music was amazing, it was packed, and there were no incidents happening. Everyone was there to have a good time."

With the increased number of underage frosh this year, the pub continued to run their wristband policy. Any minors not wearing their issued wristband when retrieving their student ID and Pub Entry Card (a card received upon signing an agreement with the pub) from pub staff when leaving would be dealt with by Campus Police. But, with 100 advance tickets sold by 11:00 a.m. on Monday morning, the spirits and expectations of Erindale College Student Union (ECSU) and pub staff heightened.

"Everything is going great. Everything is running smoothly," said ECSU President Adil Mirza. "I don't anticipate any problems, and tonight will be a great time."

Some students thought differently at the actual event though.

"It took me twenty minutes to get a drink at the bar. There aren't enough bartenders to handle everyone's orders," said a non-Erindale student, Prasheel Shaw.

While students complained of the line-up at the bar, the line-up outside the Blind Duck Pub generated aggravation, frustration, and dissatisfaction.

"When they say they're going to open at nine, they should open at nine," said fourth-year Biology student, Angie Ramsumar. "They should have two lines at two different entrances. I've been standing in the same spot for twenty minutes. It's not moving so I'm leaving."

Students lined up as early as eight p.m. to ensure admission, but waited for over two hours to enter. Other students chose to leave. Irvay, a second-year student felt, "the line and the bouncers weren't too good. I felt that some of the bouncers were acting too powerful and were treating the people with passes differently. But I enjoyed it once I got inside."

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SAC miscommunication affects frosh week activities

BY CHRISTINE BUSKE

This year's Frosh Week should have been one of the most exciting events of the year for new students entering university life. Although Frosh Week has ended, many remain angry and confused towards the unpleasant results. Many members of student organizations, frosh leaders and frosh themselves are disappointed with the lack of organization and miscommunication that occurred at some of the events, specifically the SAC Oasis day on Friday, September 3.

Upon arriving downtown that day, UTM sat on a field and waited until the Scarborough campus frosh came, and the two colleges attempted to out-cheer each other. However, the day's events of disarray began as students were forced to wait due to the delayed parade. The Students' Administrative Council (SAC) explained the delay was caused by the other college's tardiness. "I didn't like sitting and waiting and having nothing to do" said Valerie Lowe, a 19-year old UTM student.

The day became bleak as the parade was followed by lunch and

boredom throughout the afternoon.

Kathryn Mallon, a first-year student, stated it bothered her that there were many, "lapses of time with nothing to do," throughout the day. She attempted to remain positive throughout the day as, "having the chance to be with everyone and having a chance to look at the clubs was great," said Mallon.

SAC UTM Ex-Commissioner Kashif Yousuf thinks there were many reasons for SAC Oasis not turning out the way it should have. "We were hoping for many more volunteers and there were a lot of last minute surprises we did not count on. This year's SAC day was much bigger than any preceding years and a lot more was spent on it. The fact that it was so much bigger could be the reason that things went wrong."

Erindale College Student Union (ECSU) Orientation Coordinator Danielle MacDonald disagreed.

"I don't think that's what the problem was at all [the event being bigger than any year]. I think the biggest problem with it was that it caters to down

ECSU continued on page 4

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Personal reasons are personal reasons, and I totally understand that."

- ECSU V.P. Dawid Gorski, on how empathetic he is to problems, page 2

Toonie Tuesdays are back! Come by and check it out!

BLIND DUCK PUB

Wednesdays are Alexander Keith's TALL Boy Days



Student resignations afflict organizations

ECSU, SAC and EPUS face losses

By MICHELLE RABBA

Despite the school year having only just begun, several resignations have occurred on student organizations at UTM. Although these departures were decided on to best suit the needs of the individual, Erindale College Student Union (ECSU), Students' Administrative Council (SAC), and Erindale Part-time Undergraduate Student (EPUS) are now trying to find replacements to fill the positions. Because elections and votes occur at the end of the school year, it is difficult to predict what can happen in the summer months.

As a result, some students may be unable to fulfill their duties and may have to resign. ECSU, unfortunately, faced having two members resign during the late summer- Mehraan Pavri, who won the position of Special Services Director and Sadaf Mona Khan, who was acclaimed for the position of Services Coordinator.

According to Adil Mirza, ECSU President, "Both individuals provided me with letters of resignation- not upon my request, but upon their own free will. I tried to help out both individuals as much as I could. I wish them both the best."

Ultimately, both Pavri and Khan resigned due to personal reasons. Sean O'Connell, ECSU Vice-president of Finance, felt, "It's really unfortunate for ECSU and the students in general." Dawid Gorski, ECSU Vice President of Administration, agreed it was their, "choice to leave. Personal reasons are personal reasons and I totally understand that."

Gorski also expressed that he personally attempted to help Pavri compose a schedule that allowed him to spend time with his family and complete his office hours. "It was unexpected. I was looking forward to working with him," added Gorski.

Pavri outlined the reasons for his departure and explained that during the summer, some personal family problems occurred, and he found it difficult to maintain working two jobs, ECSU, and spending time with his family. "I needed to concentrate on [paying for my tuition], and it eventually caught up with me. I was in a stressful situation." Pavri also emphasized that he decided to resign because "I didn't want to let ECSU down. They were relying on me."

Despite everything, Pavri did enjoy his time with ECSU, and would still like to help put on some of the events he promised in his campaign. Although he enjoyed working with members of ECSU, he did not express the same sentiments towards Gorski. "There was some tension between me and [Gorski], but those were none of the reasons why I left." Pavri maintained that ECSU was very accommodating and that Mirza attempted to help him out as much as he could. "This year ECSU has an amazing council and Adil was very supportive in my decision."

Although Khan was unavailable for comment, ECSU expressed that she left for personal reasons as well. Gorski claimed that, "Mona worked very hard when it came to Frosh co-ordination, and because of personal medical reasons she was unable to continue." O'Connell expressed his appreciation towards Danielle MacDonald for assuming the role of Orientation Coordinator, a position that fulfilled the frosh orientation aspect of the

Services Coordinator position. "We couldn't get Frosh Week planned because we didn't have a Services Coordinator. We're blessed with having her available. She did it last year, and did an amazing job, and she did an amazing job this year as well."

To fill the positions of Services Coordinator and Special Projects Coordinator, ECSU will be holding a by-election in the near future. "I encourage everyone to run for the position," said Mirza.

Another sudden and unexpected resignation was that of Kashif Yousuf, who recently resigned from the position of SAC UTM Commissioner. In a distributed e-mail, he explained that he chose to resign because he needs to graduate earlier than expected, thereby forcing him to take on a full course load. He plans to still be involved with SAC as a director. "I will however continue as a UTM director representing UTM [issues]. There are a few things that need to be sorted at SAC still and I intend to sort them out within the next little while."

A SAC UTM meeting will be held soon to see who will replace Yousuf. "We will see if any of the current directors are interested, first preference will be given to the Deputy Commissioner. I did not make such a big decision without consulting others," said Yousuf.

EPUS also faced a recent resignation of Vice-president, Karen Lam. Lam, like Yousuf, resigned due to a change in course load. "The main reason why I resigned was that my student status changed from part-time to full-time." EPUS requires individuals that are part-time students to fulfill positions. In finding a replacement, Lam stated that the executives would be handling the situation.



Pub was packed with students having a blast.

Photo/Melissa Donnelly

Pub generates success

continued from front

Although some music I didn't like too much, it [the music] got really good around 12:30 p.m. The crowd was good though and I had a good time."

Pub Manager Maxine Dawkins attempted to prepare for the increased crowds and lines, but was still left short-staffed. ECSU staff stood at doorways in pub uniforms.

"I volunteered tonight because the pub needed the help," said ECSU College Affairs Commissioner Robert Hopkins who supported the door staff. Even non-students from other establishments worked the doors.

In past years, 'First Pub' and 'Last

Pub' generated the highest revenues. Other pub nights failed to maintain the hype, spirit, and enthusiasm of 'First Pub.' ECSU Vice President of Finance Sean O'Connell, commented on his expectations of this year's 'First Pub' and future pub events.

"I expect tonight's pub to be more profitable than last year. I don't expect a net loss at the next pub but we have budgeted for a loss. If there is no loss, the extra money will be used to improve atmosphere."

Mirza commented on future pub events also. "Although we're not going to have pub open every single Thursday night, we're going to try and carry-forth the energy from First Pub to keep crowds coming. Also, Student Affairs plans to endorse a Passport Program to encourage more student involvement. First-year students get a passport at registration, and each time they attend a pub event, their passport is stamped. A certain amount of stamps entitles students to incentives such as prizes."

He also indicated why pubs other than the first and last are not as successful. "We also have to take into consideration that U of T students are dedicated to their academics and this becomes a primary focus as we get into the term. Also, Erindale is a commuter school. A lot of people are tired of being here all the time, and just want to go home."

To attempt to generate more interest for future pubs, Mirza said, "we're going to focus a lot more on promoting pub to the students in residence by sending out flyers and possibly maintaining a 'Pub Patrol' to help promote future pub events around campus."

Dawkins also emphasized the importance of feedback and informing her on opinions. "The doors are always open. Even if I'm busy behind the bar, I always make time to hear what the students have to say. I'm interested in what they want and what they like, but I need to hear it from the students. I don't want them to go away unhappy."

This is even more imperative to her since the pub is going to be promoting new events and attempting to generate interest through the expansion of their drink menu and a new breakfast menu.

"If you have a problem with the staff, or the menu, or have comments in general, I would love to hear them. That's the only way things can change," she added.

Upcoming events at pub include a Rock Pub, Latin Pub, Tacky Pub, and Halloween Pub. Also, Dawkins intends on trying to generate more interest with residence students through making Tuesday nights Rez nights.

With files from Michelle Rabba

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OPT OUT period BEGINS Sept 9 and ENDS Oct 11



A Vibe deejay spins some records in the student centre. So far, there's been a lot of students hanging around to listen. Photo/Melissa Donnelly

Vibe is back on the air

UTM radio station resurfaces after forced hiatus

BY OWEN JARUS

Over the past year, UTM radio station Vibe has been hit with a number of problems ranging from quarrels with ECSU, low student audience numbers due to student apathy, and even being yanked off the air last November due to their equipment "over-sending" their radio signal as far off as Square One. However, despite all of the problems, they're back and in the process of hiring new DJ's and reprogramming.

As of August 20, Vibe has been back on the air available for students to listen to on campus. Although there has been some struggle, Vibe employees have been trying to bring the station to life. Station Manager and last year's ECSU College Affairs Commissioner Matt Sullivan said, "The summer was primarily getting Vibe back on our feet. Our computers, radio, and internet were destroyed. I came here to a skeleton of nothing. There was an office and four people. We worked our asses off to build this place up and I'm really proud of everybody here."

He also outlined the changes he has planned for the year. "We will definitely be changing," he said. "We're bringing in more independent, multicultural and non-top 40's music."

Sullivan emphasized the importance of focusing on turning Vibe into sounding more like a college radio station. "College radio is about bringing bands up, and giving people something new and different. And that's what I want to bring - new and different, not J-Rule five times a day."

Last year, there was tension between certain staff members at Vibe and ECSU over the station's hiring policies and Vibe's desire to split from ECSU and acquire a CRTC license.

The situation got worse when Industry Canada regulators found out that due to problems with Vibe's radio equipment, their 91.9 FM signal was being heard as far away as Square One, thereby creating a potential conflict with other stations.

They were forced to shut down until they got a proper CRTC license, and fixed its equipment so that their programming could not be heard more than 30 meters off campus.

Matt Sullivan conceded that, "in the past we have not paid enough attention to CRTC regulations." A mistake he vows will not happen

again. In regards to the past conflicts with ECSU, he mentioned that he has a good working relationship with ECSU and that [ECSU and Vibe], "are not having any great problems."

When asked how he would try to generate more listeners, Sullivan explained his intentions in promoting Vibe. "Last year, Vibe had incurred zero dollars in promotional funds. That's bad. We're media, and as such, we have the opportunity to make a lot of revenue from advertising, which is what we're going to do. We really want to make '91.9' stick out and let people know that we, Vibe, are on that."

He also expressed encouragement about the number of student volunteers who want to be involved with the station. He hopes that this is a sign that student apathy towards the station won't be as strong this year. Sullivan hopes that students will take the time to observe their new website (www.vibefm.cjb.org) and learn more about UTM's radio station.

With files from Michelle Rabba

Ali collaborates with U of T to fight disease

Boxing legend hosts fundraiser for Parkinsons

BY OWEN JARUS

Boxing legend and activist Muhammad Ali, in a special October 20 appearance at a Toronto Argos game against the Ottawa Renegades, will raise funds for Parkinson's disease research.

The money will be split in half between Parkinson Society Canada and Parkinson's research conducted through the University of Toronto.

The star studded event at the Skydome will feature a pre-game documentary on Ali's life and special half-time performances featuring Amanda Marshall, Burton Cummings, Randy Bachman, Tony Hawk, Tom Cochrane, Shaggy, Glenn Lewis, Barrage, the Ennis Sisters and Natalie McMaster among others.

Ali himself will make a special appearance at the end of the half-time show.

In the weekend leading up to the game and during the game itself, pledges will be taken both on the phone and online. Roots will produce a special edition of merchandise for the event. Those who make a minimum pledge will get one free item of the merchandise.

"As Canada's leading research university, the University of Toronto is proud to be in the ring with Muhammad Ali and Parkinson Society Canada in finding a cure for this disease," said U of T President Dr. Robert Birgeneau.

The Parkinson Society Canada thanked Ali as well. "Mr. Ali's willingness to come to Canada and build awareness of and support for

Parkinson's personifies the courage that Canadians living with Parkinson's demonstrate daily," said Ms. Meredith Saunderson, National Chair, Parkinson Society Canada. "We are very grateful to be a key beneficiary of this initiative."

The U of T's centre for neurodegenerative disease is a world leader in Parkinson's research.

"Our internationally known Centre for Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases has already made several fundamental discoveries that are helping us understand the biochemical processes involved in Parkinson's disease."

Mr. Ali's decision to promote awareness and education in Canada is particularly gratifying," pointed out Birgeneau.

Ali himself suffers from the debilitating disease. This has not prevented the devout Muslim from being appointed as a special US envoy to the Middle East to try and improve relations between Western nations and the Islamic citizens of Middle Eastern states.

His daughter Laila Ali recently became IBA Super Middleweight Champion. She has been undefeated with a 12-0 record (including 9 knock-outs) since making her professional debut.

Tickets to the Argos game will carry a \$10 surcharge for Parkinson's research.



Muhammed Ali and friends web photo fight for Parkinson's Disease at Argos game on Oct. 20th.

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ECSU unsatisfied with SAC orientation event



Marjo Asselbergs looks in dismay at her broken 'Frosh kit' sac and its flyer-filled contents. As if a box of rice isn't bad enough. Photo/Melissa Donnelly

continued from front
town students, not the outside campuses, as well as things just getting started late, to not enough security in certain areas and some poor planning on behalf of SAC," she said.

Many were surprised and highly disappointed with the content of this year's frosh kit compared to last year. First-year students paid \$90 for Frosh Week, of which \$12 should go to the kit and \$7 to lunch and dinner. According to MacDonald, ECSU buys the basic kits from SAC and then stuffs them with their own things. SAC put in the meal tickets, and promotional material. The clothes came from ECSU and the series of 7 books were donated by Dr. Danton H. O'Day, a UTM professor.

"Without Dr. O'Day we would have no frosh kit", said ECSU Vice President of Finance Sean O'Connell as he pointed out the contents of the kit to show how poor it was. Among the contents were several fliers and advertisements, a box of rice, gum, study guides, a water bottle, and t-shirts. According to O'Connell, SAC put in the rice,

which they got for free, and most of the flyers. He also said the Frosh Week fee was completely invested in the events that were supposed to take place, rather than other aspects, such as the kit.

"UTM is not sticking around anymore. It is not worth it for us at all"

- Danielle MacDonald

According to Andrew Ash, a member in SAC's downtown public relations, there were never dinner plans for Friday. "We gave the option to go around campus and into the city to get food. We never provided dinners." The fact that the lunch buffet was supposed to be all-you-can-eat, as passed on to the frosh leaders and frosh was labeled as a "miscommunication" by Ash. "An all-you-can-eat gives a lot of chance for abuse, and it is not easy to make sure you can provide thousands of people with enough food to eat."

"Throughout the entire summer I was told it was supposed to be an all-

you-can-eat buffet" said MacDonald. "Then it was just a one shot meal on a plate. Near the end of the day, our frosh were starving so we thought 'what do we do?' Our instinct was to get some sort of dinner and unfortunately it was more of the same we had earlier. If we would have known this beforehand we would have had a better solution."

ECSU paid for and provided the frosh, who remained downtown, with a selection of burgers, kebab and hot-dogs. However, the frosh remained dissatisfied with the food. "It was better than lunch, which was inedible. The chicken was hard and, in general, just really bad," said Johnny Huang, a first-year Computer Science major.

"As a leader and friend to my frosh I was dedicated to showing them a great time with UTM. Unfortunately, things didn't go as planned for SAC Day downtown. The best part [of Friday], aside from the parade, was when my frosh took me out for some Chinese food on Spadina," said frosh leader, Aubrey Iwaniw.

The lack of communication between SAC downtown, SAC UTM and ECSU was evident. MacDonald said, "It's like that every year, although this year seems to be worse. I think it is the head orientation coordinator's responsibility to mail out updates because she is the busy one and hard to get a hold of. I didn't even deal with her half of the time."

Adil Mirza, ECSU President, gave his sentiments on the miscommunication surrounding the events. "The frosh didn't know what was going on because ECSU didn't know what was going on. SAC gave us information in pieces and changed their story a few times. For example, we got there Friday thinking they would provide lunch and dinner, but it didn't work out like that."

Then they said there was supposed to be a party at Hart House at nine o'clock, then later on in the evening I spoke to someone else from SAC and they said 'no, there is no party.' We were told about the after-party at 8 or 9 o'clock in the evening, so by then we could not organize the buses to go down there. We were just supposed to stay and watch the shows on campus."

Whether or not Frosh Week will face more success, communication and organization with SAC in the future is questionable. According to MacDonald, "It really doesn't matter if there are plans to make next year better because I am going to strongly suggest that we leave right after the parade. UTM is not sticking around anymore. It is not worth it for us at all."

The very next day, ECSU had to solve another costly problem. One of the sponsors, Zen Lounge, did not show up for the BBQ, which was supposed to start at 11 a.m.

"Since last year, Zen lounge was hard to get a hold of, but they came through in the end anyway. We assumed they would come through this year as well," said Matt Sullivan, Vibe station manager. However, Zen lounge did not show up but have their name printed on the frosh shirts.

Naturally, Vibe was not pleased at all. In cooperation with ECSU, Vibe made sure the frosh had pizza by 3 p.m. "We were in regular contact with Zen lounge over the summer, there were no signs things were not going to happen," said Sullivan.

Taras Rosocha, Vibe Radio Promotions Manager continues to attempt to get in touch with Zen lounge, but has not received any response.

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- o EPUS, Room 131B North Building, U of T Mississauga, (905) 828-5422
- o SCSU, Room R-3042, U of T at Scarborough, (416) 416-287-7047
- o Or download all forms from the web at: www.apus.utoronto.ca

EPUS



EDITORIAL

THE MEDIUM

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The day of 'First Pub'



The night of 'First Pub'



Vibe – a 'media?'

Good for Vibe – they have just been allowed back on the air. Hopefully, their tenure on the air will last a little longer this time around.

Our friendly campus radio station was jerked off the air after two years because their air waves were going far and beyond their legal boundaries. Now you can turn your radio on and tune in to 91.9 fm – but only within the campus vicinity, otherwise you'll get an earful of static.

Vibe's efforts to regain a spot on the air should be applauded, but they have a long ways to go before they can call themselves an effective media. Indeed, anyone can put out a pair of speakers and blast music in the Student Centre. A media informs, educates and entertains. So far, Vibe barely meets only one of these criteria. Vibe Station Manager Matt Sullivan said, "We're media, and as such, we have the opportunity to make a lot of revenue from advertising, which is what we're going to do." Further development of their production has to take place, and most importantly, they must increase their portfolio beyond music if they ever hope to gain income from potential advertisers. Hopefully, Sullivan will keep his word and incorporate other facets than music production into the station's programme. Only then will we see progressive steps in Vibe's 'media' development.

For 29 years, Vibe has tried to gain stable ground but to no avail. This re-implementation on the air gives them another chance to get set on the right path. Baby steps have to be taken in order to attain lofty goals and Vibe is certainly moving in the right direction. However, they have to expand beyond just playing music.

Airplay does not constitute a form of media. Vibe has the ability to expand and the resources are undoubtedly available to them to develop. Until they do so, they do not have the right to call themselves a media.

Pub future at stake

The Blind Duck Pub held its first pub this week and evidently, there were mixed reactions from the students. Students complained about long line-ups to get into the pub and long waits at the bar. Some students raved about the great time they had.

The important thing to remember is that the pub is still struggling to on its feet and not everything will run as smoothly as wanted. Since the pub moved to the Student Centre, it never fully recovered and that fact needs to be recognized by the students.

Pub Manager Maxine Dawkins said, "I'm interested in what [the students] want and what they like, but I need to hear it from them. That's the only way things can change."

You, the students, need to make the recommendations you think necessary to either ECSU or directly to the pub management. They need to know how the students are thinking in order to make the necessary changes.

If the pub is going to survive another year, it needs dedicated support from the students, something it has never fully had. If the students make a concerted effort to support the pub, then we may be able to see the changes we want to see in the future.

Make your concerns heard. Nobody can ask anymore of you once you have done that. It is then up to ECSU and the pub management whether or not they will heed the recommendations, and ultimately decide the future of the pub.

The Medium is published weekly by Medium II Publications, a non-profit, incorporated student organization. The opinions expressed within are those of the writers and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of Medium II Publications. The Medium's mandate includes informing students of local and national concerns, and giving Erindale College students an opportunity to practice journalism. National advertising provided exclusively by Campus Network. Chips, cookies and other fatty snacks courtesy the Computer Science Club.

Passport Program puzzles frosh

Dear Editor,

As an incoming frosh, I was impressed by the short presentations and the advice from upper-year students contributed at academic orientation. However, I must admit that the U of T passport program puzzled me. Apparently first-year students are eligible for discounts and bargains if they collect stamps in their booklet. The twenty five percent off texts at the bookstore after filling the passport was my primary incentive, after spotting the price of one textbook and promptly replacing it on the shelf in shock. The first activity which was supposedly available to be 'stamped,' was the academic orientation.

Though I searched high and low, there were no leaders bearing stamps that I could find. Already the twenty five percent is out of my league, so instead, I opted for the free beverage offers later in the booklet. Now, as an UTM student, I have no clue what Megabytes are, nor do I care, and I couldn't find Koffler Centre if my life depended on

it. So, instead I tried the website. With some searching I discovered a list of events, though no instructions on how to get a stamp, which included such events as Raising Your Child's Self Esteem. Though I'm sure there are some, the truth is that the majority of Frosh don't have children. With events like this, is it any wonder student participation is low? Not only that, the Erindale College section of the passport site was simply a link to the college event calendar, with no mention of the U of T passport program to be seen.

My decision? If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. The passport is an ill-conceived and badly planned idea whose only benefits are instilling patience as you try to figure out how to use it. Mine is destined for a short trip to the closest recycling bin. On the bright side, however, I now have a free plastic credit card holder.

Sincerely,
 Sharon McCartan

Fourth-year student disappointed with 'First Pub' of the year

Dear Editor,

I don't think that I'm alone in having this opinion, so here it goes. I must say, the management and organization of 'First Pub' this past Thursday, September 12, 2002, was in my opinion, dismal at best. Many students stood outside and waited, and waited, and waited for at least two hours just to get in.

Countless of those, including myself and a number of my friends just decided to leave, after feeling extremely frustrated and disappointed. I have patience, but waiting from 8:45 – 10:15pm just to get into pub is pathetic.

Now here's the main problem. The management of the line-up was simply abhorrent! Personally, I would think that common sense would dictate to have at least two sets of lines in order to expedite things. But no, I guess the pub management staff decided to only let in advanced ticket holders, a process taking well over an hour from what I observed.

I understand that the purpose of the tickets was to get line by-pass, but seriously, the process simply took way too long – especially with such a large crowd.

Ok, sure, someone will argue that the rest of the students and I should have also tried to get advanced tickets, but they were apparently already sold out on the first day of school, primarily to the Frosh.

Now, one of you may argue that having more than two or three bouncers to check I.D.'s would be costly and not feasible, but with a crowd of 500 - 1000 students (maybe more?), it only makes sense to hire more.

Honestly, waiting just to get into pub is just as bad as trying to find parking at this school. I probably would have had more fun frolicking in the huge hole behind the South Building than at pub anyhow.

I guess the next time I may try going is at 'Last Pub.' They've probably made a lot of people bitter with the management of Thursday night's affair.

I'm certainly not going to anymore for the rest of the year. And I know that I'm surely not alone when saying that either.

Best wishes,
 Baieruss Trinos
 4th Year Biology and Economics

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To The Editor

I am a student at the University Of Waterloo, and I was very impressed after reading the interesting content in your newspaper. It makes very good reading even for someone who does not study at your university.

Thank you,
 Fawad Mehar

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OPINION

Ex-SAC president clarifies CFS issue

In the last issue of *The Medium*, Owen Jarus brings up some of the new issues that SAC will be targeting this year. One of the most significant things happening is of course the referendum on whether undergraduate students at U of T will want to be members of the Canadian Federation of Students. I thought it important to clarify some things written in the article. This question is very important and students should be aware of the facts when they make their decision.

Firstly, it is not just SAC that is having a referendum. The Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS), representing 10,000 part-timers and the Scarborough Campus Student Union are both attempting to become members of CFS.

If all referendums are successful U of T students (once you include the grads who are already members) will have 4 votes and a very diverse set of opinions representing the various interests and concerns that U of T would want to bring to a national and provincial organization.

Secondly, it is not a surprise that some groups, such as the Progressive Conservative Club, which have allegiances to a government that has implemented the simultaneous under funding of post-secondary education and deregulation of professional programs, would be opposed to an organization like CFS.

The referendum will raise many questions, the most important being whether students at U of T believe that being a part of an organization of 500,000 students will strengthen our voices and give us more weight to bring positive changes to our post-secondary education system. I, for one, believe it will and I look forward to having the discussion and debate with fellow undergrads about why this is the case.

Alex Kerner
SAC President 2001-2002
SAC Board

Anonymous  NICK MAANDAG



Frosh student unsatisfied with parking

Opinion

By Deniz Mustapha

As a first year student, I had taken the extra caution of buying a reserved parking permit just to be on the safe side. Unreserved parking sounded too non-secure. The idea that the parking office oversells more permits than there are of available spots was a main factor in my decision.

So I took the extra effort to arrive at school half asleep at 5:00 in the morning and joined the early birds in the line up at the parking office. While having the so-called luxury of

my reserved spot, my peers paid about \$100 less for unreserved and received the same benefit of having a parking spot everyday. Being the dollar-saving girl that I am, I was determined to save my money by getting an unreserved parking permit for my second year.

Since my friends did not have a problem finding spots I'm sure I would be stress-free as well. The plan went into full effect after I heard the prices for 2002-2003 parking rose. \$375 for reserved??? No way. I wouldn't fork it out. Even though \$299 was the price for unreserved-exactly what I paid last year for RESERVED- I paid it, believing how ridiculous the price increase was.

I followed the same routine as I did last year and arrived to school ten minutes before class started on the humid afternoon of

September 9. I drove into the unreserved lot at 11:55 am and felt caught in a 'deja vu.' Am I at Square One on Christmas Eve? I must have drove for about 15 minutes, turning here, reversing there, and running into dead ends.

Luckily, a student had got out of class and walked up to my car. She must have noticed the stress and heat combined that infiltrated me and told me to follow her so I could take her spot.

If it wasn't for this angel that came to my rescue, I would've still been in the group with the other 20 cars in search for a spot, and may have parked on the grass like others did.

Judging by the horror of my first day of school, I dread to know how the rest of the week will be or for that matter, the rest of the year.

Considering the fact that all my classes begin in the afternoon, I will be in this deadlock for the whole year.

There are not enough parking spots for the amount of students in our school, and we should keep in mind that the more students in our school mean the more cars.

And the parking office is still selling permits?

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FEATURES

Creative Short Stories

Rememberance

BY JANICE YIP

The UTM bookstore is packed with students. I wander through the English Literature section, searching for my book.

Somebody pushes me to the left. My right arm bumps into a shelf. I step on a girl's foot.

Despite all this, I notice a hot guy shouting out to his friend. I glance around the bookstore.

"I don't think so."
"Come on, you have to come," she insists. "I'm sure that they are going to have a huge memorial for 9-11."

"Somebody pushes me to the left. I step on a girl's foot. I glance around the bookstore"

"Ha, with the money that I am spending here?" I nod at my books. "I will be

do.
"Everything just blew up in front of me and now I have to figure out I want to do in my life. I'm really sorry Mary."

Mary shrugs. "It will be just my brother and me. If you want to come there's room."

"Thanks Mary." I smile.
"Just please think about it, okay? It will mean a lot for me."

I look at Mary. Her green eyes gaze at the entrance of the bookstore. She twists her silver bangle.

Her mother gave it to her for her 21st



"Joyce!" A voice shouts.

I turn around. Mary waves at me. I wiggle through the crowd until I come up to Mary at the Economics section.

"Geez. This place is mad!" I say.

"Tell me about it. Ready to go?"

"Not just yet. I have one more book to find. Michael Thelwell's *The Harder They Come*."

"For what course?"

"English World Lit."

Mary nods. We worm our way through the crowd and hunt for my book.

"Thelwell you say?" Mary asks as she scans the shelves.

"Yeah. I doubt that we're going to find it."

"There it is."

"Where?"

"Right there."

I gaze at the books. "I can't see it."
"Are you blind or something? It's right in front of your face."

Mary points at a black paperback book.

"Hey! So it is! I guess I am going blind," I joke.

I grab the novel and look at its price tag.

"What the heck? 22 dollars and 95 cents!?"

"Come on and let's just line up."

Mary and I dodge people as we walk towards the cash register. The checkout line snakes around the store. Mary and I wait behind a couple that's holding hands.

"This is nuts. It's going to take us all day just to move an inch." I sigh.

Mary smiles. "Hey, are you coming with us to New York this Wednesday?"

lucky if I am going have a meal for the rest of this month."

"When was the last time you went to New York?"

"When was the last time you had to scrounge for money?"

"She twists her silver bangle. Her mother gave it to her for her 21st birthday last year"

Mary looks at me. I stare back.
"Look Mary, it's not that I don't want to go. I'm just tight on cash," I explain.
"Also, we are graduating this year. I don't know what the heck I am going to

birthday last year. Mary has never taken it off since.

Although we talked about the September 11th terrorist attacks, she never told me why she doesn't want to go to New York without a friend. Now I understand.

Mary's mother lived in New York where she worked at the World Trade Centre.

She was there the day it happened. She did not escape from the building when it collapsed.

I blink. I understood Mary's pain. I reach out and put my hand on her shoulder.

"Mary, I will go." I say. "I'm sorry."
Mary faces me. Her eyes sparkle in the light and she smiles. "Don't be."

Mary and I stand side by side in silence as we inch our way to the cashiers.

Bamboo Star

BY SINDY LUI

Ming-Yee and her parents step into the gray and auburn marble hallway. The space is lit by a crystal chandelier that hangs from the ceiling. Aunt Tamy stands on the second floor and sashays down the stairs. Her diamond necklace sparkles under the light.

"Ah! My chote-sing niece, you ho much talla-ar!" Aunt Tamy says. She raises her soft, pale hand and pats Ming-Yee's straight dark hair.

Ming-Yee runs her fingers through her hair. "Thanks Auntie. But what does 'chote-sing' mean?"

Aunt Tamy lifts her hand to her mouth. "Aiya! Ngo love your Engrish accent-ar. Chote-sing, Bamboo star, means chiu, banana. You know! YOU! Yellow outside but white inside." She twists her jade earrings. "Ming-Yee, you Chinese. You learn si-beak good-ar. Ah...dis-grace not know mada tongue."

Ming-Yee glares at her aunt. "Banana? But I can understand Chinese and I can speak it, too."

"Ah! You-ho cute-ar! You get Chinese friends-ar, speak good Chinese. The meal ready-ia. Ngo set everything up-ar." Aunt Tamy faces Ming-Yee's parents, "Ngo get you cha." Aunt Tamy's hips sway as she strides to the kitchen.

"I hate these family functions. Mom, Dad, I'm not coming back next time. It's the same every year."

"At least this time she called you Bamboo Star instead Chiu," her Dad says. He opens the closet and hangs their jackets.

"And what does that mean? Bamboo Star is the same thing as Chiu, which is the same thing as Banana! And what was that? 'You get Chinese friends-ar'? Eh? Where am I? I'm not going to speak Chinese at school! I'm not going to hang around with only Chinese.

Gosh, I'm not a FOB!" Ming-Yee stomps.

"Let's not make a scene. We just got here. Just ignore Aunt Tamy, you know how she is," her mom says.

"Fine! Whatever!" Ming-Yee blinks and shakes her head.

Ming-Yee and her parents troop to the family room. Andy Lau's songs flow out the speakers, Ming-Yee's aunts, uncles, and cousins gossip about the love life of Hong Kong actors. Ming-Yee sits with her cousins in front of the television and rummages through the Playstation games. She sighs.

"Wai! Ah-Chui! How's unaver-saty? What you si-tudy-ar?" Uncle Harry asks.

"It's good. I'm studying English in university," she says.

"Engrish? Ho-ar! You, good Engrish-ar. Study Chinese," he says.

"I might take a Chinese course in third or fourth year."

"Ho-ar!!! Have balance-ia. Chinese and Engrish inpotant-ar."

"Yeah, I know," Ming-Yee nods and fixes her eyes on the television.

Aunt Tamy prances into the family room, tosses her long black hair, and says, "Dinna weady-ia."

Ming-Yee's parents and relatives tread into the kitchen. Aunt Tamy taps Ming-Yee's shoulder, and says, "You do something for Ngo?"

"Uh... It depends. What do you want me to do for you?" Ming-Yee asks.

Aunt Tamy smiles, shoves her hand into her pockets, and pulls out a paper. She hands the paper to Ming-Yee, "Call this place for Ngo? The repair shop for the snow blower-ar."

"Uh... Sure. But why do you want me to call?"

"No Chinese customer service."

Ming-Yee grins at her aunt, who apparently doesn't catch the irony.

"Sure," she says. "I'll make the call."

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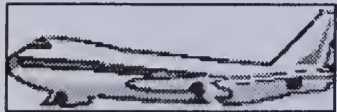
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Dream trip to France nearly a nightmare

BY JON LEE

I have always wanted to go to France. It's a dream I've mentioned on many occasions to people in my life. I was encouraged to follow this dream by my teachers, as well as my friends; they all said it would be a great life experience.



Finally, my chance to travel came: I went to Tours, France this summer while studying under the U of T Student Exchange. It wasn't perfect, but I suppose dreams rarely are when they become realities.

My excitement built as I prepared for my long-imagined trip. It was my first time ever traveling by plane too, so there was some fear mixed with the excitement. But I didn't let the fear stop me from going!

I met a nice Chinese couple on the flight; they helped me ease into the flying experience. Ironically enough, their last name was also Lee! Even with this wonderful couple as companions, the boredom of a long trip couldn't be avoided. In all, it took over 30 hours to reach the town.

Now that I reached my destination, I discovered one of the not-so-perfect issues I had to deal with: residence. If you think UTM is bad, you should try living where I was. We were assigned to stay in one particular residence building, but we couldn't as it had been closed down for health reasons.

We ended up in the slums of

Tours, where even residents were scared to travel. There were drug pushers, prostitutes, gangs; you name it, it was there. In my second week there I had to report a gang related incident/break-in to police, and later to the Exchange Program organizers.

The owner of the lodge at which we stayed lied to U of T organizers about what was going on in the area, and these organizers were slow to react to the situations that came up. The lodge was 30 minutes away, as opposed to the promised ten minute walk. Finally the washroom was very dirty, and there were no cleaning supplies; we would have done the job ourselves if there were. I hope those running the program next year read this story and make notes, so the serious issue of residence can be rectified.

Of course, other than the residence situation, the trip was a lot of fun. It took a little while to get used to the lifestyle change, but now I miss many things that I became accustomed to in France. My morning baguette or croissant, the friendly store owners of the city, and even the classes I took while I was there are all missed now that I'm back here.

The professors there really loved their work and made my experience in their system enjoyable. It was unique to see their teaching style, as compared to the profes-

sors I was used to. In Tours, they used listening labs, movies, excursions and even the audio tests! The audio tests were a good try, but they really needed better equipment.

There were some problems with translating the credits, a problem I know other students also had. I hope this trouble spot will be rectified as well; the Exchange Program is too good of an experience to let problems hinder it.

The best time for me was when I was in Paris during the Bastille Day weekend. There were lots of twists and turns as I walked



around Paris. I would love to go back to cover more. I climbed the Eiffel Tower and visited the Musée d'Orsay, the Louvre, and the Latin Quarters.

Although Paris was the highlight of the whole trip, there were a few downsides to it too. Things were expensive there:

pop was \$3 for a can!

The subway system was complex. I found this out once I realized I couldn't walk everywhere. I eventually found my way, but it took a while.

What was wonderfully interesting about the subway was the entertainment. I got on one train only to find someone reciting poet-

ry while another person played the accordion. It may sound a little stereotypical, but I swear it's true!

It wasn't all stereotypical though; not everyone had berets and bicycles! And they were all very nice, despite rumours of the French being snobs. I guess some of that comes from the 'joie de vivre' we hear so much about, the joy of living mentality.

I learned to adapt to the lifestyle. I read more in French there for pleasure as the TV had only 4 channels to choose from. Also the food was another experience on its own. I loved the fish, the pasta and some desserts the most. If you looked around, menu set dinners were the best deal.

I met many new friends too. In class, we were put into groups with people from the program whom I may have never even met before, students from many countries such as the US, Austria, Switzerland, the Middle East, China, Japan and many more.

In town, I made many friends who I now keep in touch with, thanks to the internet and email. Meeting new friends is a great irreplaceable experience.

I recommend this kind of trip to anyone, especially if some of the flaws are fixed up. And you could always go to France without the Exchange program; many students backpack in Europe each year.

In the end it comes down to traveling. Travel if you can because you will not regret the life experiences you will gain.

ROBBY
GOBBY

Overexposed

BY HEATHER VISSER

Bear Feet on carpet

Cigarette burning in freshly
cleansed fingers

Warmth of knit towel
On damp hair.

Scratch of robe against her skin.

Fuzzy comforts

Like the soft lines
In a black and white photograph.

Clear, unembellished images
Homey, familiar.

Cornered down edges
Fingerprints embossed
On glossy,
peeling paper.

I wish I could love you.
Lick your salty skin

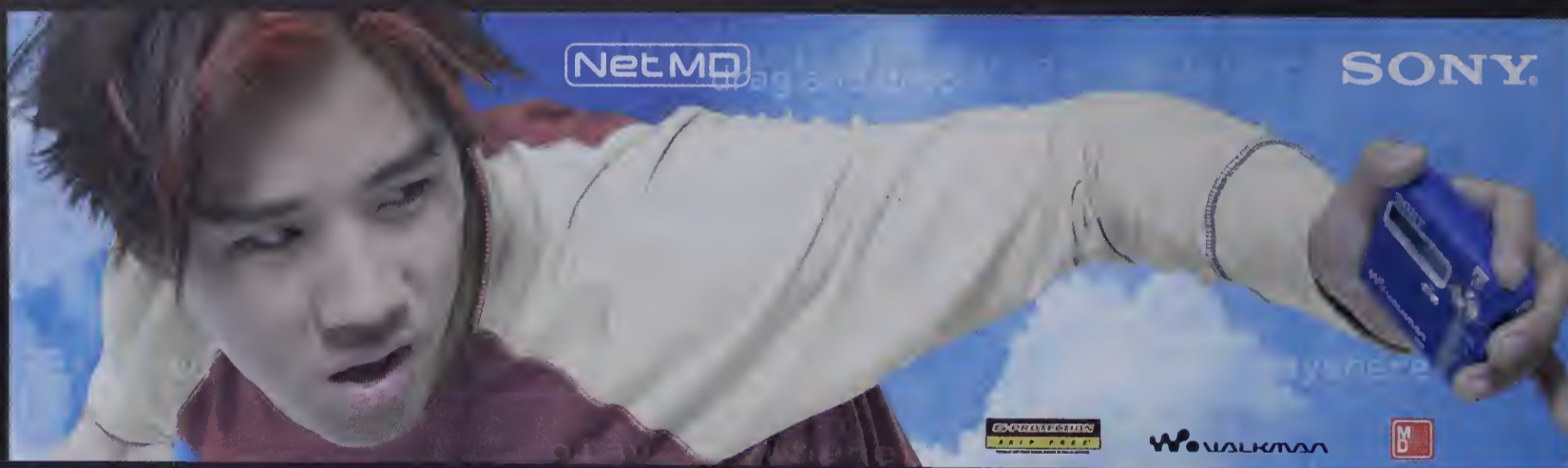
Stroke deep.
Wrap my tongue
Around your heart.

The way you love me.

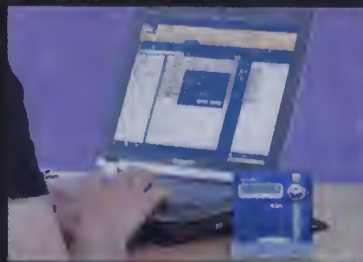
Simple back and white images
With cornered down edges.

But I can't.

I need colour.



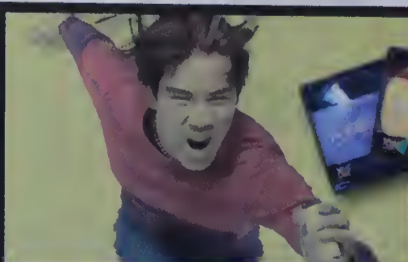
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The pain of Devic's disease haunts its sufferers

BY SIOBHAN MINTY

I open the door of hospital room 2289. My aunt, Ronalyn, lies on the bed, tubes connected to her left arm. With droopy eyes, she stares at the TV monitor set high on the wall. Her thin, green hospital gown barely covers her upper legs, which remain stiff as she turns her head to greet me.

"How are you doing today, Ronalyn?" I ask.

"Not too good," she replies. "My legs feel like they're burning again."

I sit on a chair beside her bed and hold her hand. Ronalyn shuts her eyes as if to shut out the pain.

"I don't know if I can live like this anymore," she says with a sigh.

Ronalyn suffers from an illness known as Neuromyelitis Optica (NMO), commonly called Devic's disease. Dr. Dean M. Wingerchuk reports a ratio of 1.4 women to 1.8 men affected by the disease. Also, NMO seems to affect more non-Caucasian people, such as Blacks and Asians.

For my aunt, the disease came on quite suddenly. On January 18, 2001, Ronalyn woke up to get ready for work. Upon entering the bathroom, she felt a strange sensation in her feet. She realized she could not distinguish hot or cold on her feet; the bathroom floor seemed to have no temperature. She rushed to the phone and called her doctor.

By the time she arrived at her doctor's office, the numbness had climbed to her knees. The doctor sent her to the emergency room at the Credit Valley Hospital. After several days in the Intensive Care Unit, the hospital admitted her as a full-time patient.

Two years before this debilitating

onslaught of symptoms, Ronalyn experienced several odd sensations, though she didn't know what these were pointing to.

These included a persistent itch in her upper left arm that eventually transformed into pain and similar sensations on the right side of her neck. She also experienced shooting pains in her eyes. Though she reported these symptoms to various doctors, they encountered difficulty in diagnosing her.

In 1894, researchers Eugene Devic and his student Fernand Gault did sixteen case studies of patients suffering from NMO, which gained the name Devic's disease through this study.

They found that symptoms include blindness, numbness or loss of movement, constipation, urine retention and, in some cases, severe pain, particularly in the lower portion of the body.

In addition, Devic's disease targets the optic nerves, both directly in the eyes and in related nerves in the spinal cord. Devic's strips away myelin from these areas, leaving them scarred. Myelin insulates cells in the body and aids in the transfer of messages from one cell to another, so without it, optical nerves have difficulty sending images to the brain.

Several researchers believe that Neuromyelitis Optica extends from the family of Multiple Sclerosis (MS), but many other researchers say this view is still controversial within the general medical society.

In a study performed by Raul N. Mandler and associates, the brains of eight patients were scanned using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). In looking at these scans, Mandler and his colleagues concluded that Devic's disease differs from MS in several ways.

These researchers found that the brains of the Devic's patients showed no abnormalities in myelin content compared to the brains of MS sufferers.

They also noted swelling of the spinal cord in Devic's patients. The patients in the study were from several different races.

"No one should have to live like this"

Some doctors estimate that Devic's disease may only affect a total of 500 people. However, Wingerchuk believes that physicians under-diagnose Devic's disease because they confuse it with MS.

NMO generally targets individuals between 20-40 years of age, which is similar to MS. However, there are exceptions, such as in a case study by Christopher M. Filley, Patrick E. Stemberg and Michael D. Norenberg of a 73-year-old woman.

This woman suffered burning pain in the right side of her neck and shoulder. One year later, she noticed blurred vision in her left eye, which eventually led to blindness. A few months later, the same thing happened to her right eye.

She passed away soon after, in 1982. During her autopsy, scientists discovered that her brain appeared normal, at first glance. On further inspection, however, they noticed that sections of her optic nerves were discoloured. Small plaques, caused by the loss of myelin, covered her spinal cord.

The specific life expectancy for those who suffer from Neuromyelitis Optica remains undetermined. Some doctors hypothesize that patients may live for five years after the initial onset of symptoms. Others estimate that sufferers may

survive for up to twenty years. Wingerchuk believes there is no definite approximation of life expectancy.

Though steroid treatments such as corticosteroids and prednisone slow down the decomposition of myelin, but they do not stop the decay. No cure exists for Devic's disease.

I ask Ronalyn what a good day for her feels like, in contrast to a bad one. She glances at me; her right eye sags shut as she whispers her response.

"On good days, the pain subsides enough that I can hold onto the wall and take a few steps on my own, but on bad days," Ronalyn pauses. "On bad days, the pain is so intense."

I sit back on my chair and watch Ronalyn as she drifts off to sleep. Before she closes her eyes completely, she opens her cracked lips and whispers once more.

"Be thankful my dear that you have your health. No one should have to live like this."

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

One man performer with 1,000 personalities

THEATRE REVIEW

BY ANDREA CIVICHINO



Arturo buzzes his way across the stage while doing his bumble-bee impression.

He's one man with a thousand faces, characters and personalities. Arturo Brachetti, an Italian quick-change artist, opened up at the Canon Theatre last Thursday evening with his self-titled show. Presented by Mirvish Productions, Brachetti transforms into 80 different characters and costumes in astonishing speed – faster than the blink of an eye.

In one second he pirouettes across the stage as a bumble bee and in a split second he twirls around the stage in a elaborate flower costume; while shouting verses in Italian, French and English.

His performance is a spectrum of comedy, magic and music combined with the physical use of vibrant tapestries that soar across the stage.

The magnitude of color that Brachetti projects in his show best resembles a kaleidoscope shattered on the floor – glitter and confetti were released into mid air during most scenes.

Brachetti's love for magic emerged while studying in a seminary. Like every Italian parent, Brachetti's mother and father had

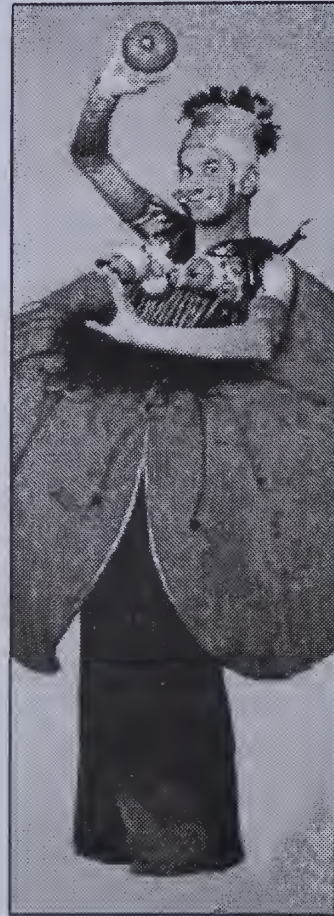
high aspirations for their son to become a priest. Instead, destiny directed him to Father Silvio Mantelli – a priest in the seminary and a lover of magic.

Father Mantelli's passion for magic influenced Brachetti to develop an interest in magic and offered encouragement to his acting.

Brachetti tells the audience that he was also introduced to the incomparable works of Leopoldi Fregoli – the revolutionary Italian quick-change artist of the beginning of last century.

His potential as an artist finally came through during an audition with Jean Marie Riviere, Director of Parodies Latin. Brachetti left a lasting impression on Jean Marie with his quick-change act of six characters. He was invited to be part of one of the best cabaret theatres in the world.

The tribute to Hollywood was the most striking scene I've watched on stage. Brachetti magically transforms into Julie Andrews (*The Sound of Music*), King Kong, Gene Kelly and *Jaws* – to name a few. It boggles the mind just to think how he can possibly take off one elaborate costume to put on another. Either this guy has a twin or a troop of efficient backstage help. Undoubtedly, after each scene you will be left asking yourself, "How on earth did he do that?"



One of many costumes he transforms into during his performance.

Another highlight to his performance is his ability to create a shadow theatre by using a stage light and a screen. Brachetti creates images of ducks, cows and vicious dogs with his own two hands – and does not leave out the sound effects either.

Perhaps this may have worked in front of his audience in Italy; however, his North American audience has higher expectations.

"His shadow performance was a little amateur," said Marie, a member of the Mirvish subscription season. "I also had some difficulty understanding him."

Brachetti did speak rather quickly and at times it was difficult to differentiate between his Italian, French and English tongues.

The original dialogue was produced in Italian and it appeared that some of the humorous appeal might have been omitted once it was translated in English.

If you can overlook the minor imperfections it truly is a magical piece of art. You will be amazed at Brachetti's physical endurance and the way he creates a masterpiece with costumes and stage props.

Arturo Brachetti plays at the Canon Theatre, 244 Victoria Street until October 20. For tickets and information, call 416-872-1212.

Festival folds up red carpet

Toronto International Film Festival

BY ANDREA CIVICHINO

It was shortly after *The Medium* elections that I was told that, not only would I be part of the most exciting section of the paper, but I would be eligible to attend the Toronto International Film Festival (my thanks to past A&E Editors – who ensured that *The Medium* was accredited to attend each year!) In all honesty, I am ecstatic that the festival has come

to an end.

Throughout the week, my pupils were permanently blood-shot from watching three to four films a day after either after working at my full time job or attending classes even though Jennifer Matotek, previous A&E Editor advised me to commit myself to the festival for the entire week because there's so much activity going on at the festival.

Although there were at least ten screenings a day, how many films can one possible watch? If you're 'lucky' you may even have to force your eyes to read subtitles. I was amongst the prestigious bunch of members of the media, where we do not have the priv-

ilege to pause the film to run to the bathroom, or fast-forward during boring dialogue moments, especially those redundant AGF trailers.

I have memorized the entire downtown subway route and have improved my running time from getting from one theatre to another. Organizers expect all festival attendees to arrive at least 15 minutes before the movie is scheduled to play.

Although I had a press pass, it did not guarantee entrance into the screenings, so I had to ensure that I left in ample time. Needless to say, when the Toronto Transit Commission failed me, I had to rely on Beck taxi services. I spent at least \$100.00 in subway and taxi fare, and tapped into my secret stash of coins from the bottom of my purse to satisfy my sugar cravings.

My body was poisoned with excess amounts of popcorn, nachos, chocolate caramels and vanilla flavored coffee. I needed to keep myself occupied during those mundane flicks and needed a companion to keep me company since I was only entitled to one press pass for the duration of the festival.

I received preferential treatment like other journalists attending the festival.

The ushers and usherettes eventually got to know my name and welcomed me with enthusiasm every time

For every screening I sat in the same seat or row, and one usher in particular even went out of his way to save me my seat.

I discovered that there were more poor quality films than those with the potential of becoming box office hits. I was most impressed with 11'09"01,

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Television gets a face-lift

TV UPDATE

BY ANDREA CIVICHINO

The fall season not only indicates a fresh new school year but it's also a time that networks test our time management skills; juggling our daily obligations and putting our time management skills to the test to accommodate the new programs on the tube. Most networks have promised their viewers new faces coupled with the familiar television personalities, with more variety to suit everyone's television needs. Make sure you have plenty of blank video tapes and your VCR is in working condition.

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) promises to meet the demands of our ever-changing world by offering a new weekly series called *World Affairs*, hosted by Brian Stewart along with a new weekly news show that focuses on legal issues, called *The Docket*. If this is too heavy for the average viewer, CBC has a lighter side with *Jonathan Cross's Canada* starring Jonathan Torrens as an obnoxious veteran journalist.

CH TV Media welcomes *American Dreams* and *Girl's Club* to their new fall line up. *American Dreams* will tell the story of a family in Philadelphia. The Pryor's, and their reaction to cultural turbulence. This new drama includes a power-house of popular television faces that include: Brittany Snow (*Guiding Light*), Vanessa Lengies (*Popular Mechanics For Kids*), Will Estes (*7th Heaven*), Tom Verica



John Ritter poses with his new t.v. family. Hey John, no matter what you say you're children will never listen.

elimination.

The Comedy Network introduces four new series, one specifically *Puppets Who Kill* on October 11. Don't let the names Buttons, Bill, Cuddles and Rocko fool you. They are everything but cuddly and cute. Instead, they lie, cheat and steal. According to a recent press release, *Puppets Who Kill* stars Dan Redican (*The Frantics*) as a naïve and hapless social worker responsible for rehabilitating four puppets gone bad. The puppets participate in sex scandals to endless brushes with the law and endure continual therapy as they wait for that glorious day when they can be reintegrated into society.

"The concept is brilliant, the writing is very sharp and the show is really funny," said Jerry Juhl, head writer of *The Muppet Show*. But *Puppets Who Kill* is about as far from the Muppets as you can get. America's most eccentric family the *Osbornes* joins the CTV network for

Popular actor John Ritter, best known for his role as Jack Tripper from *Three's Company* and for his role as a cop/landlord in the drama *Hooperman* will join the CTV line-up in the role as a father for two teens and a young son in *8 Simple Rules for Dating My Teenage Daughter*. An old favourite, Katey Sagal (Peg Bundy - *Married With Children*) returns to the tube as Ritter's wife.

Jeremiah is a comic-book-to-film adaptation based on an award-winning European graphic novel by Belgian author Hermann Huppen. Luke Perry is Jeremiah and he must navigate his way through a world populated by the survivors of a deadly epidemic that spared only those who had not yet reached puberty. Jeremiah is joined by Kurdy (Malcolm-Jamal Warner) on a mission to find the mysterious "Valhalla Sector."

On YTV, Jennie Garth plays the character of a Publicist living in Manhattan who enjoys her independence until her teenage sister (Amanda Bynes) decides to move in. Garth received her claim to fame as Kelly Taylor on the popular series *Beverly Hills 90210*. Let's see how well Garth can leave her prissy-mega bitch character behind. *What I Like About You* premieres September 27.

Boomtown is a new series that tells the street level story of the city of angels. Donnie Wahlberg (hunky 'New Kids On The Block' member) stars as Detective Joel Stevens. Stevens and his partner Bobby Smith (Mykelti Williamson) will lead the investigation of the murder of a teenaged girl who is killed during a drive-by shooting in the season premier of this new drama. It's been difficult to accept Wahlberg as an actor, even though he has made cameo appearances in several movies. It will be interesting to see how well he can leave his ripped jeans and hats behind and focus on a series, challenging role.



Let's see how well these girls adjust in their male dominated office.

(*Providence*), Gail O'Grady (*NYPD Blue*) and Joey Lawrence (*Blossom*). After reading the pilot, the story line seems weak, but perhaps some of these veteran actors will draw the type of audience that the producers anticipate to have, while contributing to the show's ratings.

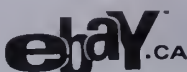
Girl's Club focuses on three hot 20-something female attorney's trying to overcome the difficulties of working in an old fashioned, male dominated law firm. Familiar faces in this legal drama are Kathleen Robertson (*Beverly Hills 90210*) and Chylér Leith (*That 70's Show*) and new face Gretchen Mol. This trio reminds me of the women of *Charmed*. Let's see if these women have the magic to make this show a success.

For those who still need daily doses of reality television, CityTV will air *The Bachelor II* beginning on September 25. If you enjoyed the sex, lies and videotape of last season, get ready for another season of suspense as this year's hunky batch-

their self-titled family show on September 17. The series follows the real lives of rock legend Ozzy Osbourne and his ruthless family, wife Sharon and children Jack and Kelly. The season premiere will follow the family as they move into their new home and Ozzy will be a special guest on *The Tonight Show*.

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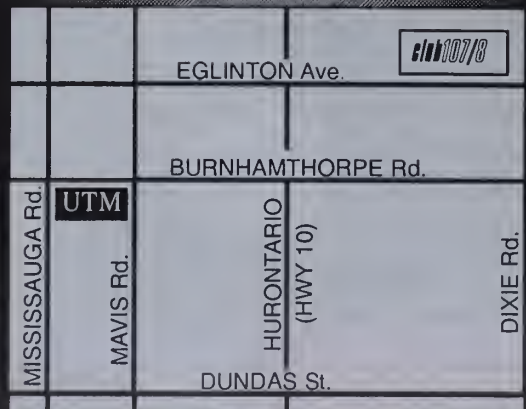
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Hayden's *Live At Convocation Hall*: receives 4/5 rating

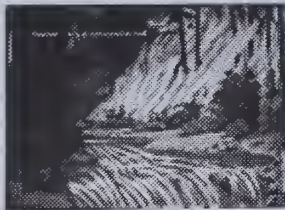
CD REVIEWS

BY MARC PEVERINI

Hayden

Live at Convocation Hall
(Hardwood/Universal)
www.hardwoodrecords.com

RATING: 4/5



Despite his chronic mumbling, Hayden's songs shine on this bare-bones recording. Hayden gives us an intimate, endearing solo introspective. His poetry glows from his short songs, portraying a poignant, yet quaint loneliness.

The album peaks with songs such as "Woody," a poem as pertinent to absentee lovers as it is to the cat it was written about.

In "Bass Song," Hayden details his own death to a piano and a light string arrangement.

With this latest release, Hayden proves that he belongs in the company of artists such as the Tragically Hip, The Rheostatics, and Gordon Lightfoot - Canadian artists whose songs have the uncanny ability to

portray the solemnity and isolation of Canada's landscape as did the Group of Seven.

Despite the intimacy of the recording, the end sees Hayden remain a stranger to the listener. And that's probably the way he intended it.

Earth Octave Lounge

Interchill Records
www.interchill.com

RATING: 2/5

Earth Octave Lounge is a compilation of 12 tracks of "organic electronica" designed to take the listener into "deep moods and fun-key-ness." The album opens via a catchy bass



number with a simple, yet effective beat. Philadelphia-native Boogs combines Spanish guitars and Cuban rhythms. English combo Cybajaz contrasts bass guitar and flute with ambient sound effects that seem to float effortlessly behind the drum track.

However, an album can't be built upon funk basslines and jazz ditties

alone. Earth Octave Lounge is too slow for dancing, at times too fast for chilling, and generally too "out there" to connect with. One track is so abstract it seems as if a toddler was let loose on a John Tesh keyboard.

Another features synth-brass that sounds more like a squeaking balloon. A third features a country-blues tone that just stinks of forced innovation. The album ends with an ambient whimper.

This CD will probably find its way into the collections of coffee shop owners and lounge lizards. However, true fans of ambient, acid jazz, and the average listener won't find enough to connect with.

Tegan and Sarah - *If It Was You*
(Superclose/Universal)
www.teganandsara.com

RATING: 2.5/5



Some musicians think blending teenage image with adult themes produces a powerful record. Such is the case with Tegan and Sarah's third release. Leaving their acoustic beginnings behind, "If It Was You" resounds with electric guitar and mild distortion.

The B.C. born sisters do prove their musical worth. Their short, jangle-pop is catchy. Their voices are complimentary and produce harmonies reminiscent of the Go-Gos and the Breeders.

One track, "Living Room," features a banjo and slide guitar combination that works surprisingly well.

However, overdone singing, flailing vocal lines, and random octave changes ruin most songs. Lyrics are too simplistic, too repetitive, and too juvenile to support the level of angst. Listeners are left cynical, not sympathetic.

Everything from their backseat-sex songs to their Alanis Morissette twang, from the pill-popping references to the scribbled liner notes seems a tad too contrived.

The Blind Boys of Alabama
Higher Ground
(Virgin/Realworld)

RATING: 3.5/5



The Blind Boys of Alabama met at an institute for the blind in 1939 and have been performing together ever since. Their latest release, "Higher Ground", is a melange of blues, rock, and good ol' Southern Gospel. The Boys keep close to their roots with three gospel tunes that even atheists will find their

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ALBUM OF THE WEEK



CD REVIEWS

BY STEFANO MACORETTA

A Rush Of Blood To The Head

www.coldplay.com

(EMI)

Coldplay has returned and unleashed a new CD entitled "A Rush of Blood to the Head," signifying their new get-up-there-in-front-and-do-it attitude. The first single, "In my place" was written back while "Yellow" was being recorded and demonstrates the full potential of what the new disc is all about.

The major difference between this disc and *Parachutes*, Coldplay's debut album, is the obvious surge of energy. You can play every track without falling asleep - in fact it's quite impressive compared to their last album. Every song has a live appeal to it while retaining the classic

Coldplay sound of piano and guitar. The band uses the same techniques on this disc but you can tell that they just got better at what they were doing.

The album has many tracks with a good variety of sounds ranging from classic mellow piano sounds

to the energetic, upbeat and hypnotic guitar work in "A Whisper." "A rush of blood to the head" has been called reminiscent of greats such as "Urban Hymns" and "OK Computer" and definitely sells itself.

Win a copy of this album! The first five people to visit 'The Medium' office will receive a copy of "A Rush Of Blood To The Head." We are located in the Student Centre Room 200. Good Luck!

Toronto Film Festival reviews poorly

continued from page 10

the popular film that features reflections of the dreadful terrorist attacks in New York City on September 11, 2001. Directors around the world were encouraged to participate in this film and were given a few requirements - each film had to be 11 minutes, nine seconds and one frame long. Even if you are worn-out by all of the September 11 propaganda, this film was truly inspiring and gave the audience a different perspective of how the entire world reacted to this unfortunate event.

The film *Evelyn* was another one of my favorites. Directed by Bruce Beresford, this Irish film from the Irish Dream Company brings the audience closer to a typical working-class family.

Desmond Doyle (Pierce Brosnan) is the head of the household and is forced to raise his three children after his wife abandons them. His children - Evelyn, Maurice and Dermot are whisked away to orphanages and Desmond who is jobless, wifeless and depressed seeks advice from a lawyer

who is not afraid to overthrow the government and the church.

My Mother's Smile was crafted by Director Marco Bellocchio and presents a stunning tale of Ernesto Picciafuoco (Sergio Castellitto), a middle-aged painter and atheist who supplements his income by illustrating children's books.

Ernesto is astonished when he discovers that his family plans to canonize his deceased mother a saint. This captivating movie illustrates the difficulties that Ernesto must conquer - putting his own beliefs aside to continue his mother's legacy.

It's interesting how the three of my favourite screenings involve the struggles and emotions that deeply affect people's lives when unexpectedly faced with a change of events that influence the way they look at the world.

There were many heart-touching and inspiring films that will be shared with our readers over the next couple of weeks. Be sure to pick up your copy of *The Medium* for continuous film festival highlights and reviews.

CD Reviews

continued from page 12

toes tapping to.

A number of famous artists are covered. A highlight is surprisingly good cover of the title track, a Stevie Wonder original. They also do a fine rendition of Curtis

Mayfield's "People Get Ready". The boys, however, completely deflate Jimmy Cliff's classic "So Many Rivers to Cross".

Other artists covered include Prince, Aretha Franklin, and George Clinton.

Ben Harper guests on three of the tracks.

Higher Ground contains enough religion for the gospel crowd, enough blues for the blues crowd, and enough covers to attract curious listeners.

Destined to capitalize on the interest created by the "O' Brother, Where Art Thou?" soundtrack,

Higher Ground is an album that is definitely worth some attention.

Beth Orton - Daybreaker (Astralwerks/EMI)

RATING: 3.5/5



Beth Orton's third album, "Daybreaker" has the potential to be both a critical and a financial success.

The Brit Award-winner's latest CD reads like a "who's who" of British music.

Orton collaborates, with a number of artists, including Everything But The Girl, former Smith's guitarist Johnny Marr, and singer Ryan Adams.

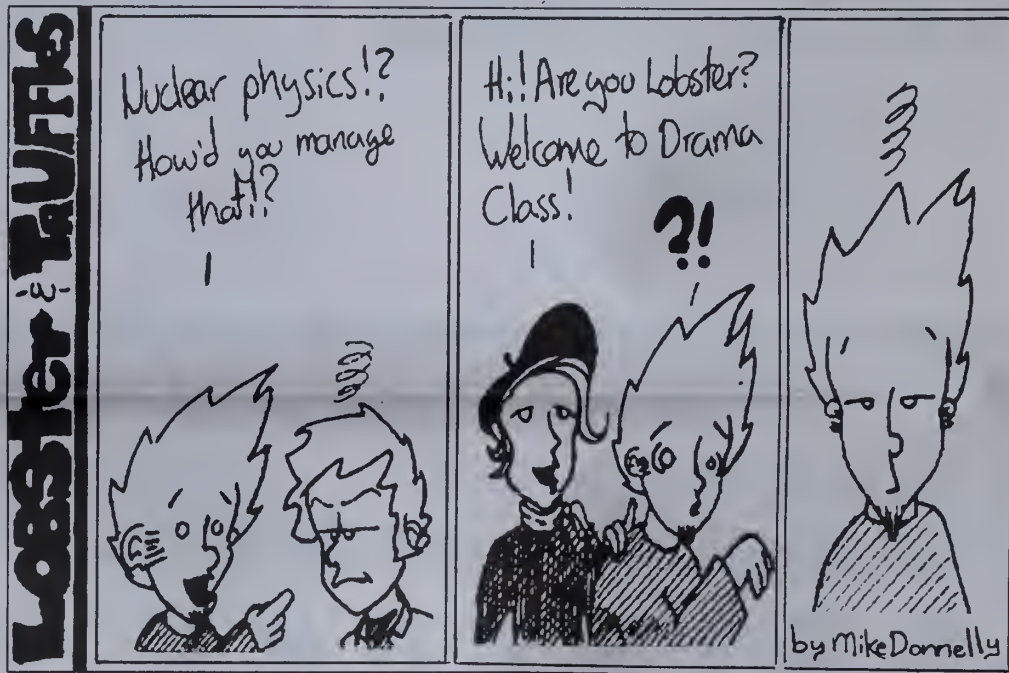
The album's strength lies in Beth's vocal capabilities. Her soft singing gives the album a light, wispy feel. String arrangements and lyrical references to the sky give "Daybreaker" is an aching, dreamy air.

The only awkward point comes via the title track. Mixed by the Chemical Brothers, the song's beat doesn't fit with the acoustic nature of the album.

However, Orton's voice still shines through, at times reminiscent of other vocalists such as Natalie Merchant and Dido. "Anywhere" reminds me of Sade, while "Paris Train" has a hint of the Cranberries.

Interesting and palatable, "Daybreaker" is a solid album that lives up to the 'dance-folk' label that has followed Beth Orton.

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SPORTS

Men's Interfaculty Soccer look to capture rare double

BY DARRYL SEQUEIRA

With the sun shining down on the green grass, Steve Freitas laces up for another soccer practice. He wonders what it would be like to finally capture the trophy after playing for the division one team the past four years.

He suits up this year as not only one of the team's best players, but also as its coach. His work should be easy though as he has nine returning players who have also played with Freitas over the last four years.



team has captured three championships the last four seasons. Freitas would like to capture both the indoor and outdoor championships in the same year which is a rarity in men's interfaculty soccer.

"The future looks good and promising for years to come"
- Steve Freitas

finals. After last week's tryouts, Freitas feels that the team will be strong again this year and the future looks to be secure. Aside

from the nine returning players, about sixteen new faces participated with eight of them being frosh. Freitas will be adding some of these newcomers to this year's roster and hopes that all those who did not make it will come out again for any other soccer tryouts. "The future looks good and promising for years to come", with Freitas also mentioning that the selection process will be difficult with the amount of talent on the field.

But he adds that he'd rather have a difficult choice based on talented players rather than a depleted squad.

In the end, it will be the team who benefits from the caliber of players which should give Freitas what he's desired the most, a championship to go along with all of his indoor accolades.

The team's first game will be here at UTM this Saturday so come and cheer on the guys in their home opener.



Soccer hopefuls are put through their paces during last week's tryouts. Game one is this Saturday at UTM.

photos/Melissa Donnelly

They know each other's game very well and have gelled really well. Yet for some reason, their outdoor season has never been able to boast about a championship.

But UTM's indoor team has had a different result than outdoor as the

"This year might be the one."

The team could not capitalize on a successful regular season. After finishing with five wins and only one defeat, the team came up short against Scarborough in the semi-

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Men's Division One Touch Football smells championship

BY JON BROWN

Last year the Men's Division 1 Touch Football team had an outstanding season. The team played well enough during the regular season and then upset the number one seeded team to advance to the final.

Last year's group was the few privileged to play one of the final games ever inside Varsity Stadium. After a grueling match pitting the Eagles against the team from Law, UTM came up just a little short of our goal and were defeated. This has only fueled the intensity of this year's roster and it has shown during the intense tryouts.

This year's squad has picked up right where it left off. With seven returning bodies from the last year's finalist squad, the 2002 team looks to make a name for itself by claiming this year's championship.

Big things are expected from Shawn Lennie again this year, he was last year's team MVP. With him patrolling the secondary teams should be weary of throw-



Falling one game short of their goal last year, this year's team practice on the same field as football greets Doug Flutie and Mike "Pinball" Clemons. photo/Melissa Donnelly

ing deep. Andrew Rabba and Miguel Co, also a pair of returnees, will be deadly in the coverage game for our defense. On offense we can expect big things from our two big inside receivers, "Calgary" Matt and Mark "Heuy" Hawthorne.

Also returning to the fold will be Simon Poon, who is hoping to rebound year after missing all of last season.

Simon played two years ago for UTM's semi-finalist team. Poon,

along with the other starting wide receivers will use their speed to blow away opponents.

Overall the team possesses the necessary tools in order to repeat as finalists. With a good mix of depth, skill and experience, the team should be able to overcome all adversities and capture this year's championship.

Any students still interested in trying out are urged to make it to the final tryout on the South Field on Tuesday from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

UTM tosses frisbee

BY DARRYL SEQUEIRA

Ultimate Frisbee tryouts are underway at UTM and the team looks good. With a good mixture of rookies and experienced players, a lot of raw talent has been displayed during every practice which will be molded as the season progresses. The team has the highest of hopes for a successful season.

The relatively new sport has taken off at the campus and brings out a new crowd of participants each year. It takes on a different approach to modern-day athletics as it is a self-officiating game (meaning no referees), and is based on an honour code. It is meant to be a non-competitive, laid-back game in which all participants have

fun. Therefore, all are welcome to join the team.

The UTM team this year is looking to draw inspiration from fellow teammates and opposing teams in the quest for the common goal: to win the interfaculty league championship. But all is not lost for the Eagles if that goal is not obtained. "As long as we have fun along the way! That's what I'll call a successful season," said Coach Lindsey Sones.

Another tryout will take place on Monday from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. on the North Field. Unfortunately, the team is short on girls this year so don't hesitate to get involved. UTM's first game will take place on September 22 at 2:00 p.m. at the downtown campus.



Check out the kid's perfect toss!

photo/Melissa Donnelly

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Volleyball gals keeping rolling

BY ROB EIDUKAITIS

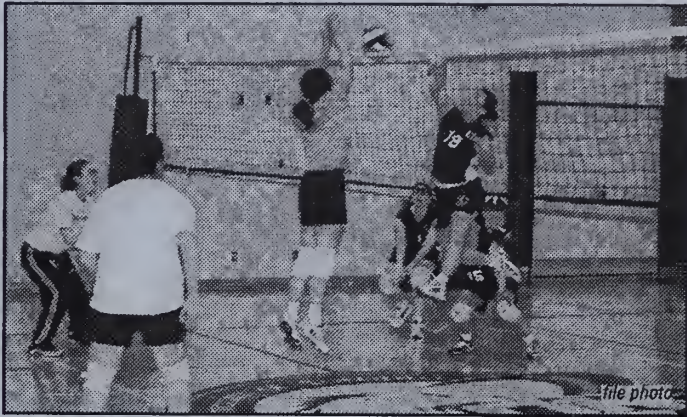
Another interfaculty season rapidly approaches and the Division I Women's Volleyball team is looking to win the championship for a sixth consecutive year. Over the past six seasons, the women of UTM have been a dominating force in the world of volleyball.

Last season, UTM completed the season by winning fifteen of sixteen games overall in addition to winning both the fall and winter season championships.

If the first team try-out was an indication of the 2002 talent pool at UTM, the team should again be a strong contender for the championship.

With twenty-four women attending the first try-out, selecting a team of only twelve players will indeed be a difficult task for coaches Rob Eidukaitis and Paul Stanczak.

Any additional players who were unable to make the first try-out are welcome to attend the upcoming try-outs from September 17-19 between 6:00-7:30p.m.



file photo

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16th-20th SEPTEMBER

STUDENT CENTRE

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OPIRG stands for The Ontario Public Interest Research Group. We are a student funded, volunteer-based organization at The University of Toronto that promotes and engages in action, education and research on a wide range of social and environmental justice issues. We offer the opportunity to build a wide range of skills while working for meaningful social change.

Check out these Action Groups and the opportunities to make connections, educate and agitate (call the office for meeting times)

Anti-Racist Media Education (ARMed)
Anti-Corporate Rule Action Group (ACRAG)
Students Against Sweatshops (SAS)
Poverty Action Committee of Toronto (P.A.C.T)
The Newsletter Collective (Actions Speaks Louder)

The Internet Collective
Radio OPIRG (on CIUT 89.5 FM every Wednesday from 9-10am)
The Environmental Collective
Colombia Solidarity Action Group
First Nations Solidarity (FNSAG)

Check out the Dr. Chun Resource Centre to find books, videos, magazine and articles on social justice and environmental issues.

OPIRG-Toronto will have information and refund tables at:

The International Students Centre, (33 St. George Street) Sept 16-19th 11-7pm

The Meeting Place, UofT at Scarborough Friday Sept 20th 12-7pm

The Student Centre, Erindale Tuesday Sept 17th 12-7pm

Woodsworth College, The Courtyard Wednesday Sept 18th 3-7pm

**Please bring proof of enrollment

OPIRG-Toronto will be issuing refunds till September 30th, 2002 at the OPIRG Office

OPIRG-Toronto is located in room 101 of The North Borden Building, 563 Spadina Ave.

You can reach us at 416.978.7770, by email: opirg@campuslife.utoronto.ca.

Check out our website <http://opirg.sa.utoronto.ca>

Women's Basketball looks for repeat

BY JACK KRIST



UTM's basketball women look to continue their domination in interfaculty play. The women went undefeated last season.

file photo

The Women's Interfaculty Basketball teams are predicted to be strong again this year. Continuing the winning ways will be three new players for division one who have all played rep basketball or varsity basketball at other universities. This will help to soften the blow of losing Deb Harmsen who has gone to Massachusetts on a scholarship.

The new recruits will help returning players such as Christine Gonyou, Stephanie Kishimoto, Lindsey Sones, Marija Kosovski, and Ashley Cross.

Last year's division one team completed an undefeated season in league and exhibition play. These wins included victories over OCAA varsity teams from Seneca College and Georgian College.

The team has only lost one game over the past five seasons in league play. With balanced scoring from all positions and great role players to compliment any weaknesses, the team looks primed to win another championship for UTM.

The advantage of having so many talented players appearing at the tryouts will enable UTM to field a very competitive division two team. As there will be some tough choices for the last cuts of division one, these players will more than likely step into the starting role for the division two team to be coached by Robert Liu. Both teams look to field between ten to twelve players.

New players are still welcome to tryout as practices continue this week Tuesday to Thursday from 5:00p.m. until 6:30p.m.

Joek & Jill Talk

"What do you think of the new cardio theatre?"

Andrew Bringas
Fifth-year English and Science Student

"It's one of those rare moments that you see that your money is going to something. It's starting to look and feel like a gym."

Natalie Carret
Fourth-year Philosophy, Italian & History Student

"I think the cardio theatre is great because time really flies and you don't notice how much you want to fall over and lie on the floor. The variety of programmes satisfies everyone's interests and it is much less boring to do repetitive cardio exercises. All machines are positioned so that everyone gets a view too!"

Norbert Knutal
Fifth-year Criminology & Psychology Student

"It is a great idea. Finally there is something to do during cardio. It makes the cardio more enjoyable. Maybe more girls will come into the gym."

Ramy Mutlak
Fifth-year Computer Scienc & Economics Student

"IT'S GREAT! CARDIO GOES A LOT FASTER."

Aubrey Iwaniw
Fourth-year Environmental Management Student

"Finally men are present in the Cardio room at UTM's gym! The men to women ratio has changed drastically since the televisions were installed. Now men and women can enjoy a healthy workout side by side because there is something to focus on rather than the pain of exercise."

photos/Darryl Sequeira

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Women's Interfaculty Touch Football

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COED 4 ON 4 BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

Date: Saturday Sept. 28
Time: 2:00-5:00pm
Registration 1:30-2:00pm at the courts
Location: Beach courts by North Field

Early Registration will be accepted at the CPE office Sept 16-27. See Louise Vanderwees

Need some help getting started on Your Workout? Free orientations are being offered at the Fit Stop at noon hour.

Interfaculty Tryouts

Women's			
Basketball	Sept. 17,18,19	5:00-6:30pm	Gym
Volleyball	Sept.17,18,19	6:30-8:00pm	Gym
T- Football	Sept 16 (last chance)	6:00-7:00pm	South field
Soccer	Sept 16(last chance)	5:00-6:00pm	North Field
Ice Hockey	Sept 22,29	10:30-11:30pm	Erin mills
Men's			
Basketball	Sept 17,18,19	9:30-11:00pm	Gym
Volleyball	Sept 17,18,19	8:00-9:30pm	Gym
Soccer*	Sept 17	6:00-dark(last chance)	North field
T-football	Sept 16	5:00-6:00 (last chance)	BD/SF
Ice Hockey	Sept 22,29	11:00pm-12:00am	Cawthra park

*Changed from Sept 16 to Sept 17

Need some cash?
We are currently looking for timers and scorers for Interfaculty Sports See Jack Krist for details

TUESDAY'S DROP IN BEACH VOLLEYBALL
ANYONE CAN PLAY MEET AT THE COURTS
5:30-7:30PM

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